



Security Council

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Letter dated 27 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the inter-Congolese dialogue and the Sun City meeting issued on 22 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inocencio F. Arias
Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 27 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on the inter-Congolese dialogue and the Sun City meeting issued on 22 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union is extremely concerned that some parties to the inter-Congolese dialogue have threatened not to attend the talks in Sun City, South Africa.

This introduces grave risk on the eve of the inter-Congolese dialogue. It undermines the parties' commitments to establishing a new political framework in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to long-term peace and democratization. The parties have an obligation to work on behalf of all Congolese to live in a peaceful, stable and democratic society.

Therefore, the European Union calls upon all parties to the dialogue to honour these obligations. As such, their responsibility must be to attend the Sun City meeting and address their differences in a manner that reflects those responsibilities. The failure of the talks in Addis Ababa to make progress places increased pressure on all parties to enter into the dialogue with a spirit of accommodation, compromise and professionalism.

The European Union, and the wider international community, has great expectations for the dialogue in Sun City.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.

